

REMARKS

The Office Action, the cited and applied reference, and the Advisory Action have been carefully reviewed. No claim is allowed. Claims 1, 6, 13, and 17 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

Claims 6, 20 and 27 have been objected to by the examiner. Claims 20 and 27 are cancelled and the examiner's suggestion in the Advisory Action is adopted for claim 6, thereby obviating the objections.

Claims 1-6, 12-18, 20, 25, 27, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. This rejection is obviated by the amendments to the claims, which either cancel the rejected claims or adopt the examiner's suggestions.

Claims 1-4, 12, 14-16, 18, 20, 25, 27, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Invitrogen 1997 product catalog. This rejection is made moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims.

In the Advisory Action of August 19, 2004, the examiner indicated that claims 5, 6, 13 and 17 appear to be allowable over the prior art of record but are rejected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 6, 13 and 17 are now amended and

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rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and to overcome the objections and indefiniteness rejection. With regard to claim 5, instead of rewriting claim 5 in independent form, applicants have incorporated the features of claims 4 and 5 into claim 1. This is effectively the same as rewriting claim 5 in independent form. Accordingly, the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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